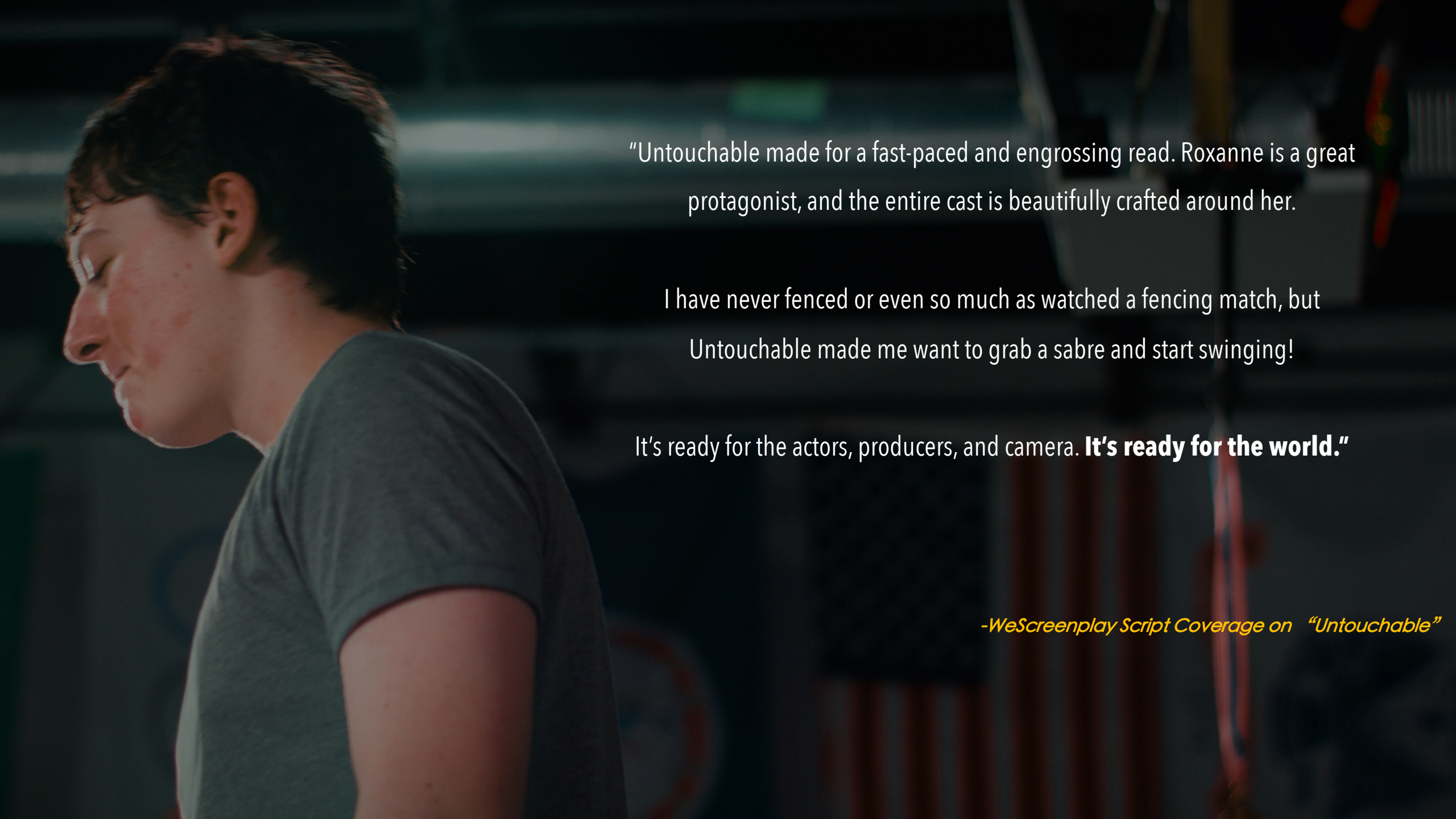




UNTOUCHABLE

A Feature Film by Adam Lapallo



"Untouchable made for a fast-paced and engrossing read. Roxanne is a great protagonist, and the entire cast is beautifully crafted around her.

I have never fenced or even so much as watched a fencing match, but Untouchable made me want to grab a sabre and start swinging!

It's ready for the actors, producers, and camera. **It's ready for the world."**

-WeScreenplay Script Coverage on "Untouchable"

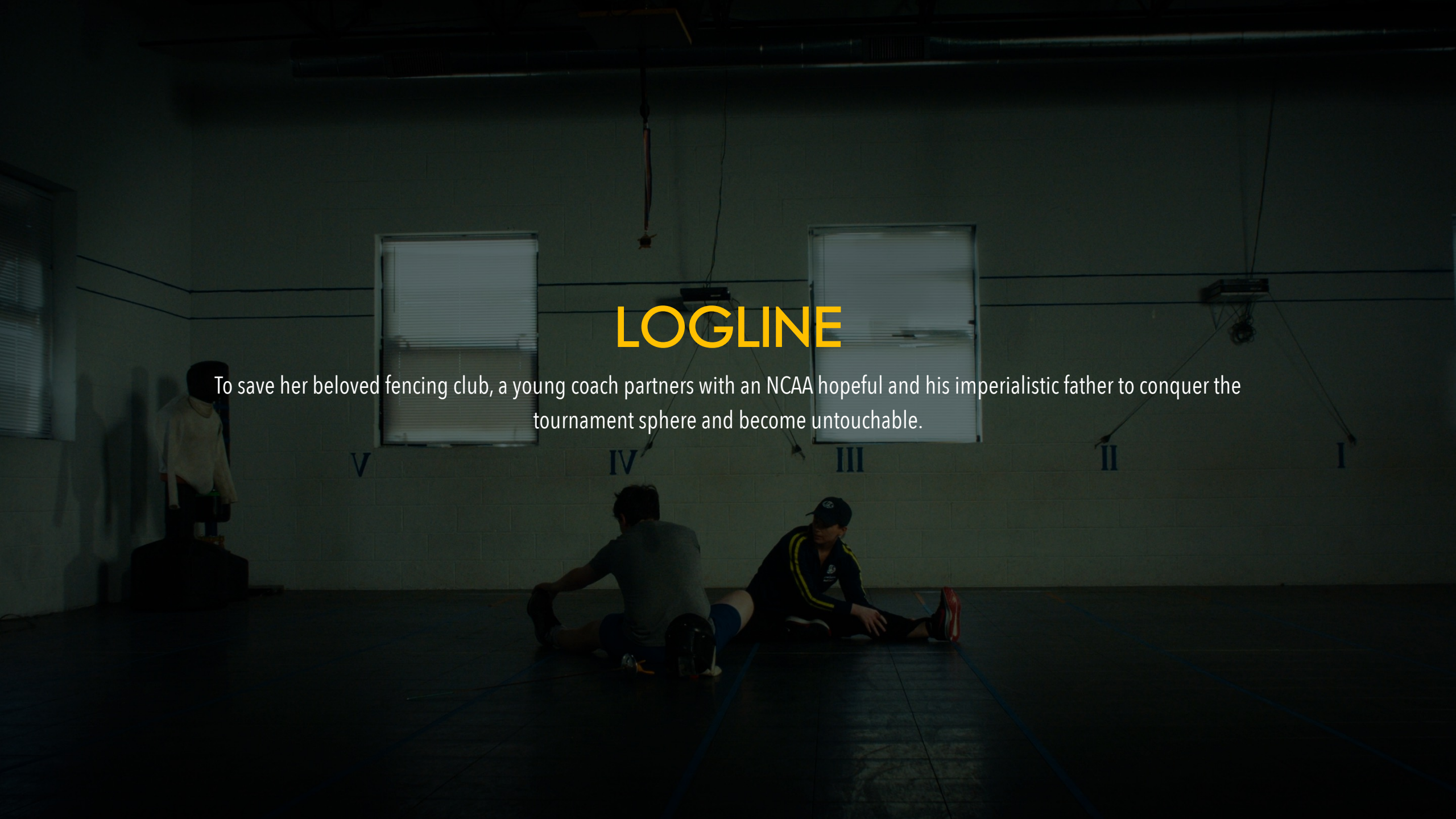


EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

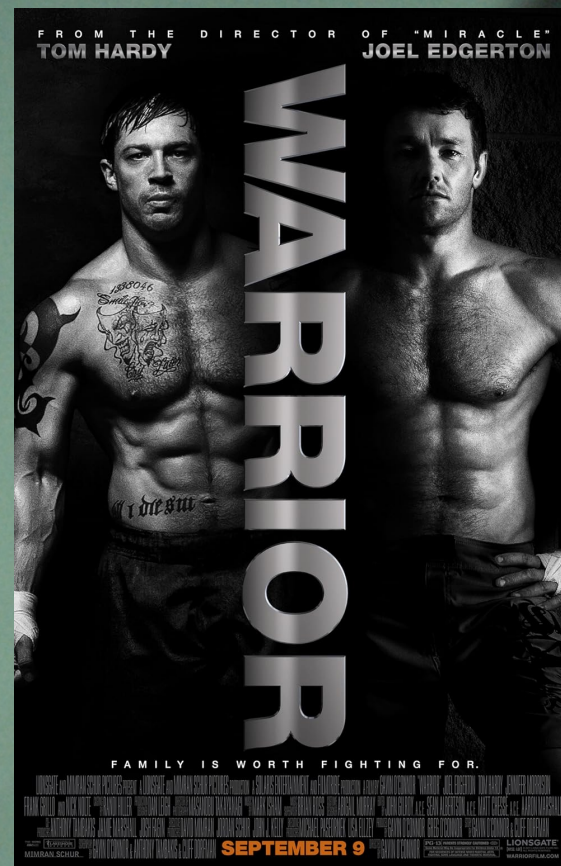
Title	Untouchable
Length	Feature film
Genre	Sports drama
Budget	\$300,000
Shoot	July 2027

LOGLINE

To save her beloved fencing club, a young coach partners with an NCAA hopeful and his imperialistic father to conquer the tournament sphere and become untouchable.



COMPS



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

For as long as I can remember, my two great passions in life have been **fencing** and **filmmaking**. As a child, teenager, and young adult, fencing taught me how to be the best version of myself – how to work hard for something I wanted, how to lose with dignity and win with humility. In fencing, I experienced growth. I gained confidence. I fell in love, and had my heart broken. I became a champion, a business owner, and I learned what it meant to be responsible for a young athlete's development. *Untouchable* reflects all those lessons and bridges the gap between that upbringing and my career as a filmmaker. I wrote the feature script after my hometown fencing club, the Mechanicsville Fencing Academy, closed during the pandemic. It was a swan song to my time there, a tribute to the coach who taught me so much, and above all, a love letter to the sport that lives in my DNA.

The short film, which we finished in 2025, saw success I never could have predicted. We raised almost \$20,000 through crowdfunding. We had an international cast of some of the finest actors I have ever worked with, including a world champion fencer. We screened in Los Angeles, my grandfather's hometown of Palermo, and in festivals across Europe and Asia. Not bad for a kid from Virginia. And now, we're thinking **bigger**.

The feature expedition is something I've built towards for close to a decade. Fencing has never had a proper feature sports film, something to screen in theaters or watch on streaming and go "Yeah, that's us." Despite its storied history and icon nature, our sport has never had a proper life on the silver screen. Movies connect and inspire. They teach regular audiences what it feels like to live in a different world. If chess can have *The Queen's Gambit* and ping-pong can have *Marty Supreme*, why shouldn't fencing have ***Untouchable***?



Adam Lapallo, writer and director of Untouchable.

TEAM

OWEN PALMIOTTI

Producer



Owen Palmiotti is an award-winning novelist and film producer. He co-wrote and produced the feature film, *Madhouse Mecca*, which won Best Editing and secured a Domestic and International distribution deal. Owen has been part of over fifty films in various capacities. His recent film *Sister Wives* was longlisted for a BAFTA.

Past Filmography

2026	<i>Side Saddle</i>	Short
2024	<i>Written by Mike</i>	Feature
2024	<i>Solitude</i>	Feature
2024	<i>Sister Wives*</i>	Short
2024	<i>In the Blood</i>	Short
2023	<i>Wisteria*</i>	Short
2021	<i>The West Virginia Starfish*</i>	Short
2022	<i>Death Count</i>	Short
2018	<i>Madhouse Mecca*</i>	Feature

EMILY MARQUET

Director of Photography



Emily Marquet is an emerging cinematographer currently studying at AFI. Recent projects include indie features *Withdrawal* and *Shanidar* as well as shorts *In The Dark*, *The Gallery*, *Infinity Girls*, *Snowfall*, *Wildman*, *Academic Support*, and a documentary series with Bill T. Jones and many music videos.

Past Filmography

2025	<i>Withdrawal*</i>	Feature
2025	<i>Shanidar</i>	Feature
2025	<i>The Gallery</i>	Short
2024	<i>My Name is Jonas</i>	Short
2024	<i>Death in Colfax County</i>	Short
2024	<i>Infinity Girls</i>	Short
2024	<i>In the Dark</i>	Short
2024	<i>God Body</i>	Short
2022	<i>Wildman</i>	Short

*Award-Winning

Michelle Principi

“Roxanne”



Michelle Principi is thrilled to be playing Roxanne Guinness in *Untouchable*! Back in the early 2000s, Michelle’s parents spontaneously signed her up for a summer fencing program, where she quickly fell in love with the sport. She was invited to train at Boston Fencing Club under the guidance of Syd Fadner (now owner and Head Coach at Worcester Fencing Club). Unfortunately, her time as a fencer was cut short, but she was later able to utilize her skills while studying stage combat, adding the katana and broadsword to her repertoire. Since moving to New York, Michelle has trained at the Barrow Group, Actors Axiom, and with actor and coach Jordan Woods-Robinson. She has appeared in numerous films, commercials, and television shows in New York and New England, and performed on stage with The Heights Players, The Greenhouse Ensemble, and Classics on the Rocks.

Past Filmography

2026	<i>Echoes of Dread</i>	Lead
2025	<i>Moondays</i>	Lead
2024	<i>The Darkest Vein</i>	Supporting
2024	<i>Theory of Conflict</i>	Supporting
2024	<i>Garbage Bag of Broken Bottles</i>	Supporting
2021	<i>Where the Horizon Lies</i>	Supporting
2021	<i>The Bunny Man</i>	1 Episode
2020	<i>Homicide City</i>	1 Episode
2020	<i>Evil Lives Here</i>	

Simon Val

“Miles”



Born and raised in Texas, Simon Val is an award-winning actor and elite fencer. He won the Best Youth Actor award for his short film “Ditched” at the Revolution Me Film Festival in 2022. His films have premiered in festivals all over the world, including Prague International Film Awards Festival, FrightFest London, New York Shorts International Film Festival, Hollyshorts Film Festival LA, and many more.

Simon has competed in fencing all over the world and is a two-time US World Team Member in Junior Men’s Epee. He currently fences for the University of Pennsylvania and aspires to one day represent the USA in the Olympics.

Past Filmography

2023	<i>I Want In</i>	Lead
2023	<i>Horror Movies & Scary Stories</i>	Supporting
2023	<i>Layaway*</i>	Lead
2022	<i>Crush(ed)</i>	Lead
2022	<i>5000 Blankets</i>	Supporting
2022	<i>Ditched*</i>	Lead
2022	<i>Mean Spirited</i>	Supporting
2022	<i>Let Her Eat Cake</i>	Supporting
2022	<i>The Arbors</i>	Lead

Michelle Principi
Kevin Lee Rosenblum

Simon Val
Lily Mummery



Winner take all.

UNTOUCHABLE

— a film by adam lapallo —

THE SHORT FILM

The *Untouchable* proof-of-concept short film, directed by Adam Lapallo, filmed in May 2024 at Blue Ridge Fencing Center in Charlottesville, VA and was completed in April 2025. The 18-minute short raised over \$18,000 from members of the Virginia fencing and filmmaking communities, with a final budget of \$30,00.

The concept film stars Michelle Principi, Simon Val, Kevin Lee Rosenblum, & Lily Mummery and has screened in film festivals in Los Angeles, Sicily, Barcelona, Istanbul, Kolkata, and Fredericksburg, including a Best Short Film nomination from the oldest sports film festival in the world, Paladino d'Oro.

THE SCREENPLAY

TOP 2%
STRUCTURE

TOP 2%
PLOT

TOP 3%
OVERALL IMPRESSION

RATING
CONSIDER
PLACED IN THE TOP 4%

Adam Lapallo wrote *Untouchable* as a spec script in 2021. Since then, the screenplay has received accolades from many notable screenwriting contests. It has received coverage from the Black List, the Virginia Screenwriters Forum, and Screencraft. It was listed in the Top 1% of Discoverable Projects on the popular screenwriting platform Coverfly and was featured on their monthly Red List.

Its screenwriting awards include:

- Semifinalist in the Austin Film Festival Screenwriting Contest
- Top 10 Drama in the Final Draft Big Break Competition
- Top 50 in the Launch Pad Screenwriting Contest

STORY



ROXANNE, a late 20s fencing legend adrift after her competitive career is over, finds herself the steward of her lifelong fencing club and second home, the AURORA FENCING CLUB, following the death of the club's founder and her father figure, COACH RICK. Specifically, Roxanne now has her own protégé, MILES, and has been hired by his father HARVEY to get Miles into the NCAA on a fencing scholarship to Stanford University.

Though Roxanne lacks the experience and terrifying reputation of rival coach TOMMY LAPALLO of ZIKOVICH FENCING ACADEMY, her empathetic coaching style leads Miles to victory at local tournaments and earns Harvey's respect, despite losing many of her students, including Miles's girlfriend JILLIAN, to ZFA.

Complicating Roxanne's coaching career is her unresolved feelings toward CHRISTIAN, Coach Rick's son and Roxanne's first love during her teen years at AFC. Christian left AFC years ago over his troubled relationship with his father and a dysfunctional sibling rivalry dynamic with Roxanne, but the two long to be in each other's lives again in the wake of Rick's passing. Christian's trauma around fencing means he wants nothing to do with AFC, and Roxanne's increasing financial struggles keeping AFC afloat and devotion to Miles's fencing career cause friction between the two.





Roxanne's split focus causes tensions to rise with Harvey, who wants to see greater results from Miles. The pressure compounds on Miles, leading him into a spiral that Roxanne is unable to pull him from. This exacerbates tensions with Jillian, as Roxanne is forced to use some underhanded methods to help Miles beat her while fending off Tommy's attempts to poach Miles to ZFA. Roxanne's growing tunnel vision around Miles causes her to lose her other students and her day job, forcing her to move into the AFC back room as she can no longer afford an apartment. Christian, recognizing the spiral for what it is, leaves her again.

The bubble finally bursts at a midwinter AFC tournament: Miles tears a hamstring during a bout, and Jillian bursts an artery in the back room during a mental health episode following a loss. Roxanne, recognizing the dysfunction around her, resigns in protest as Miles's coach, despite Harvey's insistence that she train him through his injury.

Harvey transfers Miles to train at ZFA. Miles is furious at Roxanne for abandoning him and refuses to talk to her. With AFC no more, Roxanne moves back in with her mother GLORIA and pays down her debt.. In the spring, she receives an unexpected visit from Jillian, who has likewise stepped away from fencing but wants to enter a ratings rally event at Stanford over the summer, and asks Roxanne to coach her. Miles will be there with Tommy Lapallo, his last chance to get off Stanford's waitlist and onto their team.

Roxanne and Jillian meet Miles and Tommy at the tournament. Jillian encourages Roxanne to sign up to fence, but when she is paired against Miles, Roxanne abstains from the bout rather than fence her old student. As Miles heads into the final bout that will decide his fate at Stanford, Tommy's aggressive coaching again causes him to spiral. Roxanne and Jillian work together to oust Tommy, and Roxanne reconciles with Miles, coaching him to victory and onto Stanford's fencing team.

In the aftermath of the competition, Roxanne and Miles reflect on their shared journey in fencing. They part ways as friends and equals, Miles heading into his future in collegiate fencing, and Roxanne going home to find Christian.



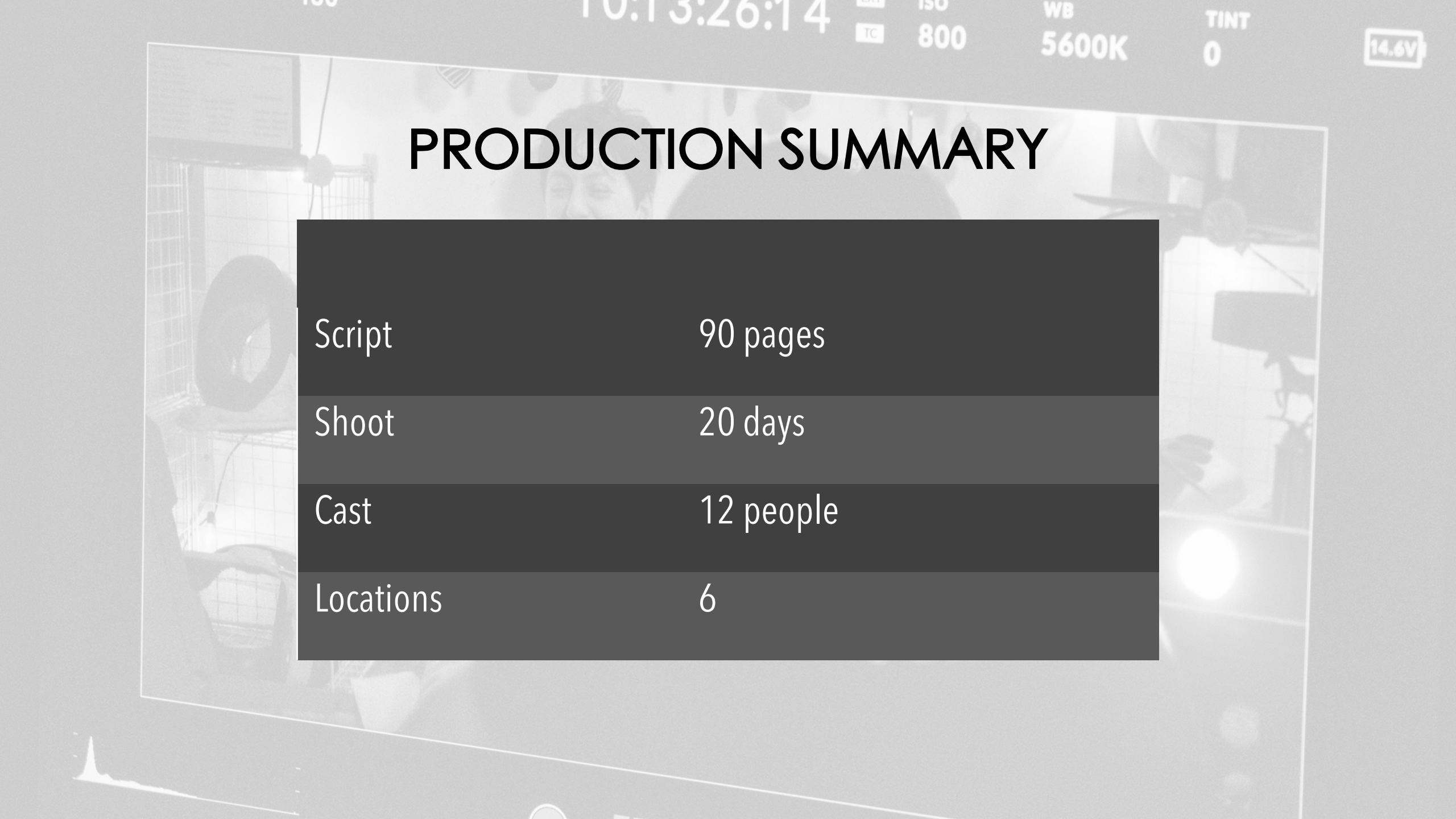
WHY FENCING?

Fencing is a thrilling game with a lengthy history (among the first sports included in the modern Olympics), and yet it has been overlooked by Hollywood and the indie film market for decades. Its few moments of representation in mainstream entertainment (*The Parent Trap*, *Wednesday*) lack any true authenticity to the sport. Anyone can recognize the iconic black-grate mask and white uniform, but few people know all that much about modern fencing or those who commit their lives to it.

Untouchable aims to be the definitive modern fencing story and tell an authentic story in the world of modern, elite fencing, that balances the suspenseful thrill of a sword fight with the grounded emotional stakes of a young person's future. The fencing community has been steadily coalescing around the short film over the past year, and a feature film production has the potential to reach even greater heights and introduce mainstream audiences to the sport. With his background in both fencing and directing, Adam Lapallo is uniquely positioned to break down that wall and connect cinematic fencing to its audience.

PRODUCTION STRATEGY





10:13:25:14 TC 800 WB 5600K TINT 0 14.6V

PRODUCTION SUMMARY

Script	90 pages
Shoot	20 days
Cast	12 people
Locations	6

PRODUCTION PLAN

The film will shoot for four weeks in summer 2027 in Virginia, taking advantage of Virginia's tax incentives and vibrant filmmaking scene.

Virginia-based fencing clubs such as Blue Ridge Ridge Fencing Center and Cardinal Fencing Academy will play the Aurora Fencing Club and Zikovich Fencing Academy.





FENCING CLUB INCENTIVES

In addition to rental fees, fencing clubs that participate as shooting locations will receive social media promotion from Wolfpack Films all through the film's festival and distribution path.

Students from the club will have the opportunity to be paid extras and interns for the production and receive valuable work experience for college applications and job interviews.

Several Blue Ridge Fencing students interested in film, TV, and theatre helped out on set for the short film production. The club held a private screening of the film for all its members, followed by a Q&A on film production and mental health in fencing.



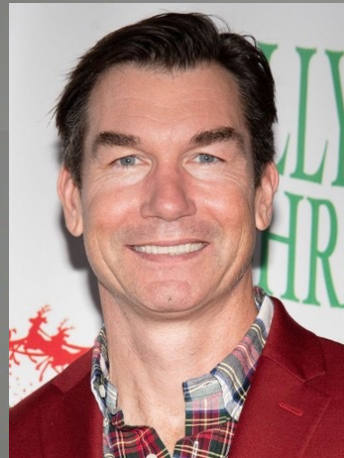
NAME ACTOR CASTING

Bankable mid-level actors to surround our leads and boost distribution value.

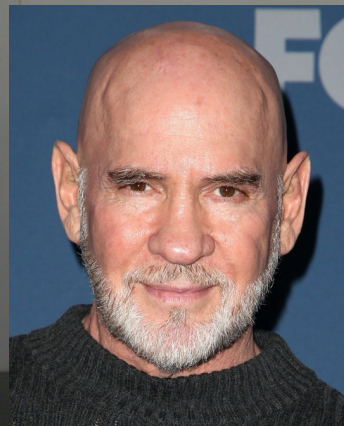
GLORIA GUINNESS



COACH LAPALLO



CHRISTIAN KIEFER



ADDITIONAL FUNDING CHANNELS

VIRGINIA TAX INCENTIVES

(PRODUCTIONS OVER \$250,000):

- 15% refund on goods, services, and wages
- Extra 10% for Virginia residents
- Extra 10% for hiring first-time VA cast and crew
- Maximum of 40% refund

GRANTS

- Film Independent
- Roy W. Dean From The Heart Film Grants
- First Flight Features
- VA Governor's Motion Picture Opportunity Fund

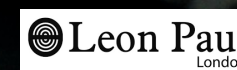
POTENTIAL PRODUCTION PARTNERS:

- Oakwood Arts
- Virginia Film Office
- Belltower Pictures
- 4th Floor Studios
- United States Fencing Association



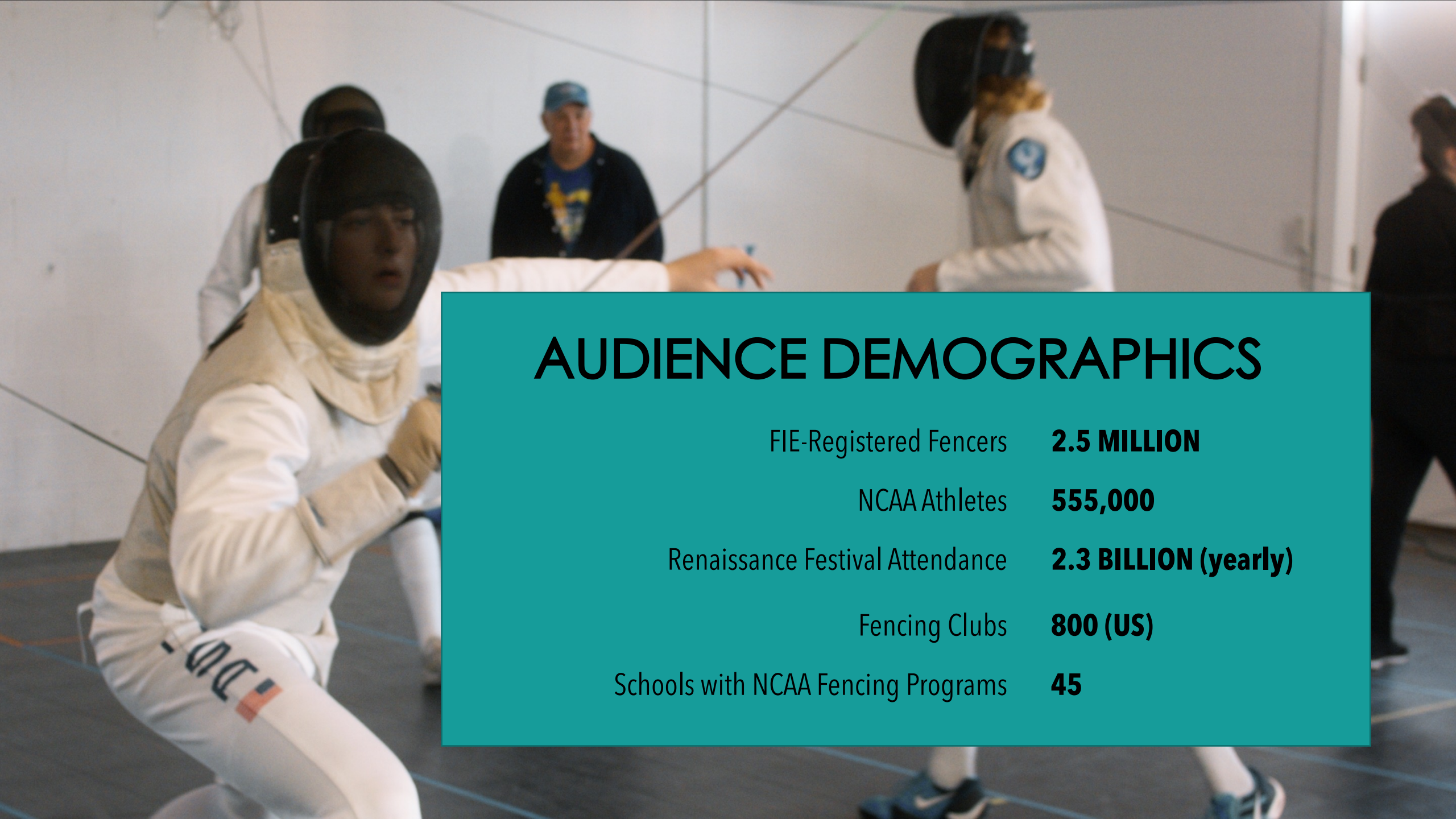
PRODUCT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- Absolute Fencing
- Blue Gauntlet
- Leon Paul
- Prieur USA





DISTRIBUTION

A photograph of a fencing competition. In the foreground, a fencer in a white uniform and black mask is in a ready stance, holding a foil. In the background, another fencer is visible, and a man in a blue cap and dark jacket is watching. The background is a plain white wall with some faint lines.

AUDIENCE DEMOGRAPHICS

FIE-Registered Fencers **2.5 MILLION**

NCAA Athletes **555,000**

Renaissance Festival Attendance **2.3 BILLION (yearly)**

Fencing Clubs **800 (US)**

Schools with NCAA Fencing Programs **45**



2025 GLOBAL BOX OFFICE

Sports Movies **\$1 BILLION**

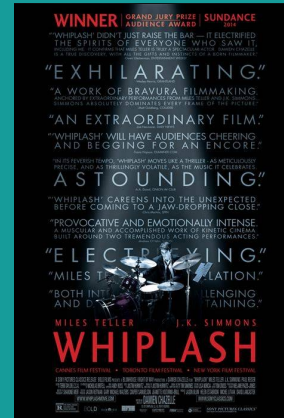
Sword Combat Movies **\$4 BILLION**

Coming-Of-Age Dramas **\$2 BILLION**

FINANCIAL COMPS



Budget: \$65M
Box Office: \$191M



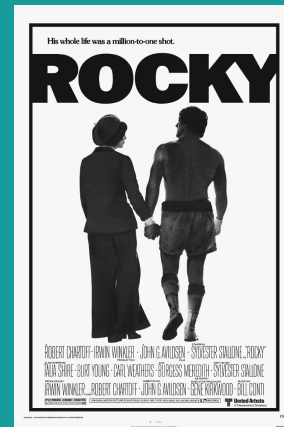
Budget: \$3.3M
Box Office: \$50M



Budget: \$55M
Box Office: \$96M



Budget: \$15M
Box Office: \$45M



Budget: \$860,00
Box Office: \$115M



Budget: \$13M
Box Office: \$330M

SPORTS MOVIE DISTRIBUTORS

Sports Movie Distributors:

- A24
- Neon
- IFC Films

Distributors For Films Under \$1M:

- Magnolia Pictures
- Elevation Pictures
- Vertical
- Amplifier Films

TARGET FILM FESTIVALS

World Premiere Targets:



Sports Film Festivals:

